GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3325
ANSWERED ON:15.04.2002
NATIONAL DROUGHT POLICY
DALPAT SINGH PARASTE;SUKENDER REDDY GUTHA

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have categorised/identified various districts or zones as drought prone in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have drawn any action plan for drought prone districts so as to effectively counter the situations of drought;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there is a need to formulate a national drought policy to tackle drought situation;

(f) if so, the steps taken thereon; and

(g) the studies being made in respect of soil and climatic conditions to reduce the drought risks rather than post-drought relief measures?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The State-wise details of coverage under Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), as intimated by the Department of Land Resources, is at Annexure.

(c) & (d): The Department of Land Resources is implementing the DPAP in identified areas with the following objectives:

(i) To mitigate the adverse effects of drought on crops and livestock;

(ii) To encourage restoration of ecological imbalances;

(iii) To promote economic development of village community; and

(iv) To improve economic and social conditions of the resource poor and the disadvantaged sections of the village community.

The DPAP programme is implemented by them since 1995-96 on Watershed basis.

(e) & (f): In addition, financial assistance is provided to the States in the wake of naturalcalamities including drought in accordance with the recommendations of Finance Commissions appointed quinquennially.

(g): The Department of Land Resources have intimated that no research studies have beenconducted in respect of soil and climatic conditions under DPAP.

ANNEXURE

INDICATING DETAILS OF COVERAGE UNDER DROUGHT PRONE AREAS PROGRAMME (DPAP)

S.No.	State	No. of Dists.	No. of Blocks	Area in Sq.Kms

1. Andhra Pradesh 11 94 99218

2. Bihar 6 30 9533

3. Chhatisgarh 8 29 21801

4. Gujarat 14 67 43938

5. Himachal Pra 3 10 3319
6. Jammu & Kashmir 2 22 14705

7 Jharkhand 14 100 34843

8. Karnataka 15 81 84332

9. Madhya Pradesh 23 105 89101
10. Maharashtra 25 148 194473
11. Orissa 8 47 26178
12. Rajasthan 11 32 31969
13. Tamil Nadu 17 80 29416
14. Uttar Pradesh 15 60 35698
15. Uttranchal 7 30 15796
16. West Bengal 4 36 11594

Total 183 971 745914